

The PAN AMERICAN UNION

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COLOMBIA

GENERAL DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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1914

COLOMBIA IN BRIEF.

Area, 438,436 square miles (1,135,549 square kilometers).

Population, 5,472,604. (Census of 1912.)

FOREIGN COMMERCE, 1913.

Exports.....	\$34,315,252
Imports.....	28,535,780
Total.....	\$62,851,032

Principal Exports: Coffee, gold, cattle hides, bananas, tagua (ivory nuts), Panama hats, rubber, emeralds, etc.

Principal Imports: Textiles, foodstuffs and condiments, metals, railway supplies, pharmaceutical products, soft drinks, wines, and liquors.

The climate along the coasts is tropical, but in the elevated regions of the interior temperate and healthful. Bogota, the capital, owing to its elevation, enjoys a delightfully cool and salubrious climate the year round.

Chief physical characteristics: An extended coast line on both the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. Three chains of mountains cross the country, one of these being the source of the Magdalena River, which empties into the Caribbean Sea. The Magdalena is navigable for over 600 miles (say 1,000 kilometers), while the Cesar, Cauca, Nechi, Lebrija, and Sogamoso are navigable for varying distances.

Means of approach: The principal ports of Colombia on the Caribbean Sea are Puerto Colombia, at the mouth of the Magdalena River and connected by rail with Barranquilla, 15 miles (24 kilometers) distant; Cartagena, Santa Marta, and Rio Hacha. These may all be reached by steamers from New York, or by transshipment to coast lines at Colon, Panama. The first three have been added to the itinerary of the United Fruit Company's steamers from New York. They are ports of call also for several European lines. On the Pacific Ocean, Buenaventura and Tumaco are the most important ports, reached by all of the Pacific Coast lines from South American ports and from Panama from the north. There are regularly traveled roads between Bogota and Venezuela to the northeast and Ecuador to the south.

If specific information in regard to Colombia not contained in this pamphlet is desired, the Pan American Union will endeavor to provide it upon application to the Director General.



COLOMBIA

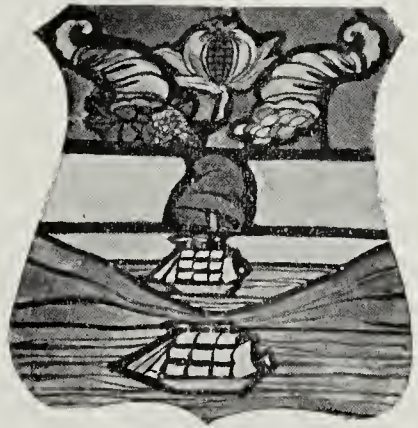


The Republic of Colombia covers an area of 438,436 square miles (1,135,549 square kilometers), with a population of 5,472,604 (census of 1912), equal to 12.48 inhabitants per square mile (4.8 per square kilometer).

Three chains of mountains which cross the country produce a variety of climate and products, ranging from the temperate to the tropical. Coffee, cacao, sugar cane, tobacco, and bananas are successfully grown and largely exported, and the extensive forests contain a number of valuable cabinet and other useful woods and medicinal plants. Vegetable ivory and rubber are other products of export; also "Panama" hats, in the manufacture of which the natives have acquired considerable skill. The mineral wealth of the country has been but little exploited although its emerald mines furnish the world's chief supply of these gems. Gold is found in every department, and silver, platinum, mercury, iron, and lead also exist. The emerald and salt mines and the pearl fisheries are Government monopolies. Oil has recently been found in paying quantities.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

When Columbus, on his fourth and last voyage, had discovered Cape Gracias a Dios, on September 14, 1502, he sailed along the Colombian coast for a considerable distance, but did not make any attempt to settle the country or conquer the aborigines. It was left for Alonso de Ojeda, who in the year 1508 was granted the land lying east of the Darien River, which was termed the Province of Uraba, to attempt the conquest of the country. Ojeda succeeded in establishing himself firmly along the coast, battling continually with the Indians; but all of his attempts to conquer the Chibcha Kingdom, situated on the high plateau, were fruitless. In the year 1536 Jimenez de Quesada undertook the subjugation of the Chibchas and at the same time two other expeditions, for the same purpose, started from other points, that of Frederman and of Pizarro's first lieutenant, Benalcazar. These three expeditions met on the plateau, and it was due only to the tact and diplomacy of Quesada, that strife was avoided. Having succeeded in this, he established friendly relations



COAT OF ARMS OF
COLOMBIA.



PROMINENT THOROUGHFARES IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.

Upper: Avenida de Colon (Columbus Avenue) which takes its name from the statue of Columbus which adorns it.
 Center: Electric illumination of Plaza de Bolivar (Bolivar Square). In the background is the Capitol.
 Lower: Avenida de la Republica (Avenue of the Republic)

with the aborigines, a highly civilized people, similar to the Incas of Peru. He established his capital, the present city of Bogota, at the site of the old Chibcha capital and explored the country in all directions.

A governor-general was appointed by Spain and the name changed to the Province of New Granada, and in the year 1718 it was made a viceroyalty. The first viceroy was Antonio de la Pedrosa y Guerrero, and New Granada was successfully governed by twelve viceroys until the year 1810, when the last, Don Antonio Aynar y Borbon, was deposed by the citizens of Bogota. Revolutionary movements had previously been initiated in various parts of the country, but the war against Spain took definite form in July of that year. On August 7, the patriots under the able leadership of Gen. Simon Bolívar utterly defeated the royalist forces at Boyacá.

Bolívar succeeded in effecting a union between Venezuela and the former viceroyalty of New Granada, and on the 17th of December, 1819, the new Republic formally adopted the title of the Republic of Colombia. On July 12, 1821, a constituent congress met at Cúcuta and elected Simon Bolívar as the first President of the "Greater Colombia." The "Intendencia de Quito," now the Republic of Ecuador, joined the union in the year 1829, but when, on December 17, 1830, Bolívar died, the union was dissolved, and New Granada adopted the title of the Republic of New Granada on November 17, 1831. This title was subsequently changed to that of the Granadine Confederation, later to that of the United States of Colombia, and lastly to the Republic of Colombia. The change of name indicates the various phases of the development of the country, Colombia having finally resolved to adopt the unitary republican form of government, which experience has taught it to be the best fitted for the country.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

By the constitution adopted August 4, 1886, the Republic of Colombia abolished the Federal Union and the sovereignty of the several States and adopted the unitary republican form of government, with legislative, executive, and judicial branches.

The Senate and the House of Representatives, constituting the National Congress, are intrusted with the legislative power, the former chamber consisting of 35 and the latter of 92 members. Senators are elected indirectly for a term of four years by electors chosen for the purpose, and representatives are elected by direct vote of the people for the same term, at the rate of 1 for every 50,000 inhabitants. Two substitutes are elected for each senator and representative to replace them in case of absence or inability to serve. Congress meets at the



THE CATHEDRAL, BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA.

This structure differs from some of the others in the mountains of South America, because the façade is very lofty and bold. It occupies one side of the Plaza Bolívar in the center of the city. The building was not completely finished until 1823. In the vault are the bones of Quesada, the founder of the city.

capital, Bogotá, every two years on February 1, for a period of 90 days. It may prolong its sessions indefinitely or be called in extra session by the President.

The President is elected by direct vote of the people for a term of four years. There is no vice-president, but two designados first and second, elected by the Congress, succeed the President, respectively, in case of his absence, death, or inability to serve. The President, the designados, and cabinet (September, 1914) are as follows:

President, Dr. JOSÉ VICENTE CONCHA (inaugurated August 7, 1914).

First Designado, Dr. MARCO FIDEL SUÁREZ.

Second Designado, Sr. Don JORGE HOLGUÍN.

Minister of the Interior, Sr. Don MIGUEL ABADÍA MÉNDEZ.

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sr. Don MARCOS FIDEL SUÁREZ.

Minister of Finance (same as Minister of Treasury).

Minister of War, General ISAÍAS LUJÁN.

Minister of Public Instruction, Sr. Dr. EMILIO FERRERO.

Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Sr. Don JORGE ENRIQUE DELGADO. (This new department in the cabinet was created by virtue of Law 25, October 4, 1913).

Minister of Public Works, Sr. Don AURELIO RUEDA ACOSTA.

Minister of the Treasury, Sr. Don DANIEL J. REYES.

The Department of the Interior (Ministerio de Gobierno) is intrusted with the administration of the various departments and national territories, the post and telegraph offices, hospitals and charitable institutions, sanitation, the maintenance of public health and the courts and penal institutions, Colombia having no department of justice. This department is also charged with the supervision of the press of the country.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores) has charge of the diplomatic and consular corps and the maintenance of foreign relations through them, as well as the settlement of international boundary disputes. It also exercises a certain control over the Roman Catholic churches in the Republic.

The Department of Finance (Ministerio de Hacienda) prepares the annual budget, collects and disburses all public funds, and has charge of the service of the public debt, the customhouses and internal-revenue offices, the control of the valuable salt deposits, and the navigation of rivers.

The War Department (Ministerio de la Guerra) has charge of all matters pertaining to the army and navy, and attends to the instruction and training of citizens of the reserve forces. The military and naval colleges are also under its control, as are also the national and rural police.

The Department of Public Instruction (Ministerio de Instrucción Pública) exercises supervision and control over the public schools, high schools, colleges, and institutes for special instruction, among the latter being the National School of Commerce, the National School of Fine

Arts, and the National Academy of Music. It also has charge of the National Library, the National Museum, and the Astronomical Observatory, and through the various sanitary commissions and health boards frequently intervenes in matters concerning the public health.

The Department of Public Works (Ministerio de Obras Públicas) is intrusted with the encouragement and regulation of manufacturing



THE PLAZA OF THE MARTYRS BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.

industries, mines, agriculture, public lands, trade-marks and copyrights, the regulation and administration of railways, the maintenance of roads and bridges, of public buildings, and other public works.

The Department of the Treasury (Ministerio de Tesoro) has charge of the mint, the printing of bank notes, and the emission of bonds.

The judiciary comprises a supreme court, a superior tribunal for each Department, and a number of minor courts. The supreme court is composed of seven members appointed by the President for a term of

five years, while the justices of the superior courts are appointed for four years.

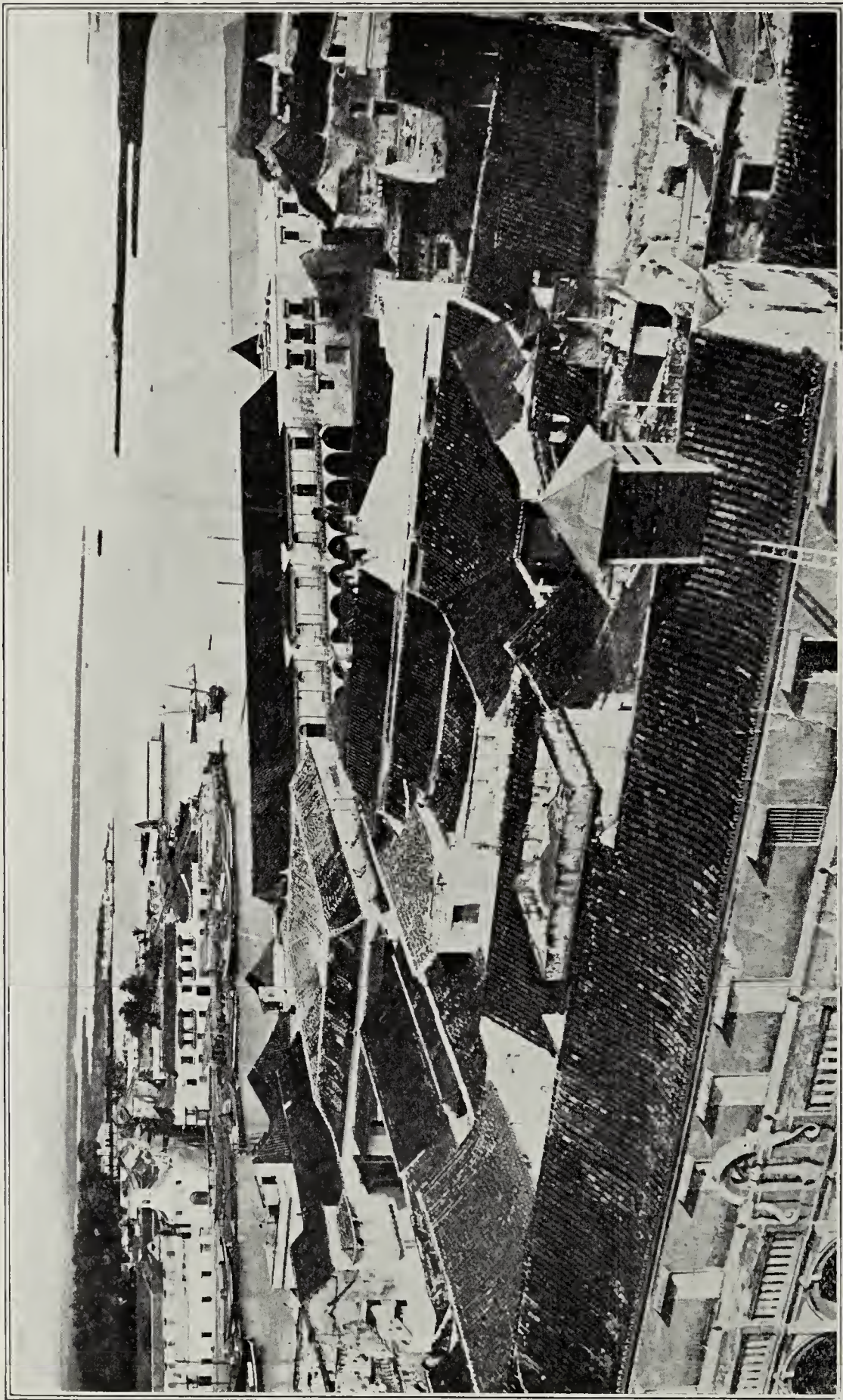
The permanent army consists of about 7,000 officers and men. Military service is compulsory,¹ and the total war strength of the armed forces is estimated at 120,000. The navy comprises five cruisers, three gunboats, one troop ship, and other auxiliary vessels.



STATUE AND PARK BERRIO, MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA.

There are about 700 post offices in the Republic, handling approximately 7,000,000 pieces of mail matter per annum. There are over 500 telegraph offices, with 20,000 kilometers (12,000 miles) of Government line in operation. The Government has the control of these systems. Contracts have been concluded for establishing wireless stations at Bogotá, Buena Ventura, Medellín, Santa Marta, the island of San

¹The service is compulsory in the sense that the standing army is drafted, one-third every year, so that the entire army is renewed every three years.



A VIEW OF CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA.

Cartagena, called the "Heroic City," is situated on the Caribbean coast, and was founded in 1533. It was the first city of Colombia to declare independence of Spain in 1811, and has been several times besieged, the most memorable siege being that of 1815.

Andres, and Cartagena for communication with the West Indies, Panama, and Venezuela. Plans are underway for wireless stations also at Bucaramanga, Cali, Cúcuta, Manizales, Tamalameque or El Banco, Tumaco and Riohacha.

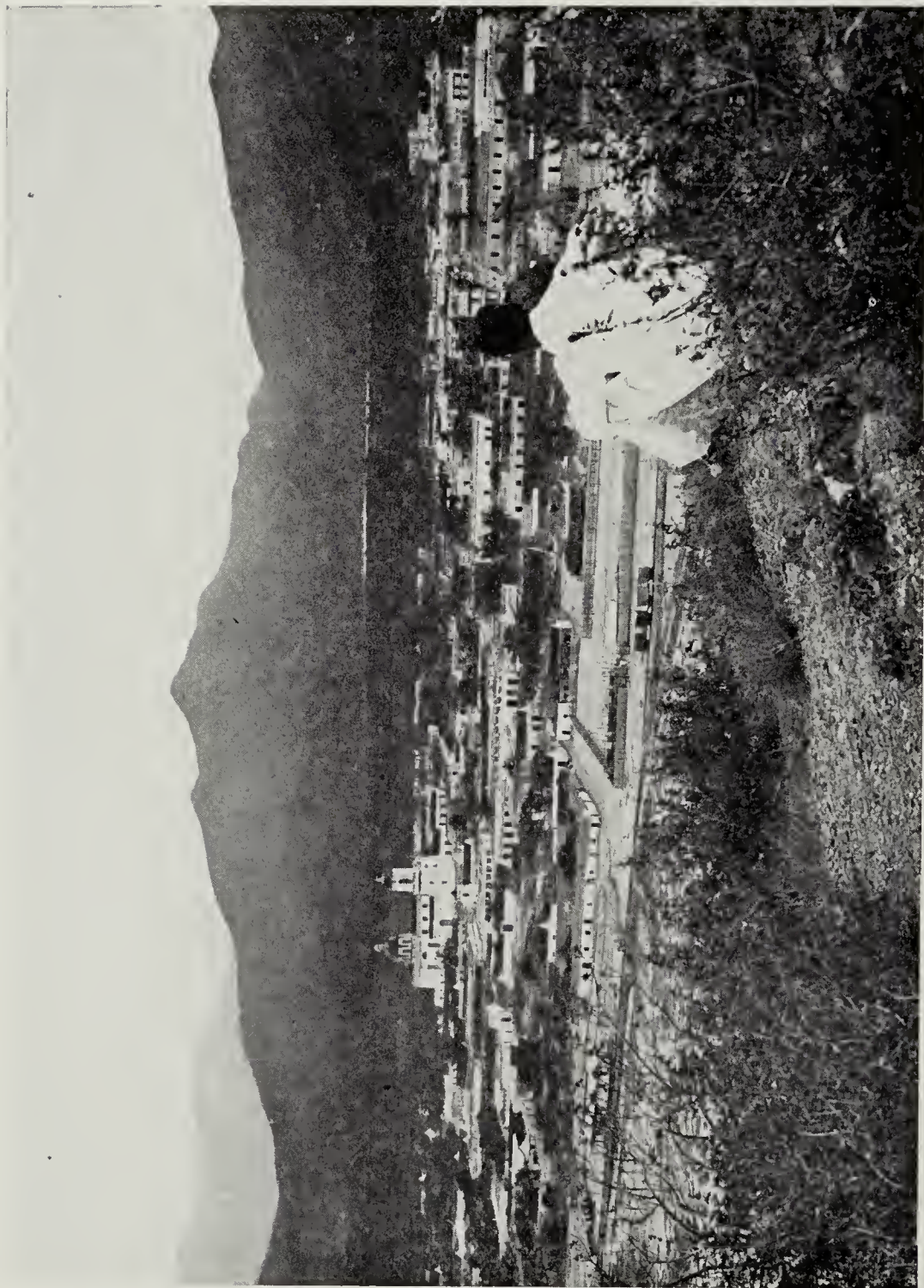
Under Decree No. 340 of 1910, and subsequent decrees, the Republic has been divided into 14 Departments, 3 Territories or "Intendencias," and 8 "Comisarías" or special districts. Executive authority in each Department is vested in a governor appointed by the President, while the Intendencias and Comisarías are governed by special commissioners. The provincial and district executive authorities are likewise appointed by the President, but municipal councils are elected by direct vote of the people.

The political subdivisions of the Republic of Colombia are as follows:¹

Departments.	Capitals.	Populations of capitals.
Antioquia.....	Medillín.....	71,004
Atlántico.....	Barranquilla.....	48,907
Bolívar.....	Cartagena.....	36,632
Boyacá.....	Tunja.....	8,971
Caldas.....	Manizales.....	34,720
Cauca.....	Popayán.....	18,724
Cundinamarca.....	Bogotá.....	121,257
Huila.....	Neiva.....	21,852
Magdalena.....	Santa Marta.....	8,348
Nariño.....	Pasto.....	27,760
Panamá.....	Panamá.....	38,000
Santander.....	Bucaramanga.....	19,735
Santander del Norte.....	Cúcuta.....	20,364
Tolima.....	Ibagué.....	24,693
Valle.....	Cali.....	27,747
<i>Intendencias.</i>		
del Meta.....	Villavicencio.....	4,774
del Chocó.....	Quibdó.....	15,756
<i>Comisarías.</i>		
Arauca.....	Arauca.....	4,922
Caquetá.....	Florencia.....	2,034
Putumayo.....	Mocoa.....	1,380
Juradó.....	Juradó.....	5,656
Urubá.....	Acandí.....	1,476
Goajira.....	Guaraguarau.....	6,244
Vaupés.....	Calamar.....	545

Colombia maintains as diplomatic representative to the United States a Minister at Washington. It has a Consul General in New York; Consuls in Mobile, San Francisco, Chicago, Baltimore, Boston, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Norfolk (Va.), and in Ponce and San Juan, Porto Rico; Vice-Consuls in Los Angeles, New York and Norfolk, and Consular Agents in Gulfport (Miss.), and New Orleans. The United States maintains a Minister at Bogotá, and has a Consul-General in Bogotá, Consuls in Barranquilla and Cartagena, Vice and Deputy Consuls in Barranquilla and Cartagena, and Agents in Medellín, Quibdo, Santa Marta and Cali.

¹According to the official census of 1912.



OVERLOOKING THE OLD TOWN OF SANTA MARTA, COLOMBIA.

Santa Marta, founded in 1525, was the first settlement of the Spaniards on the northern coast of what is now Colombia. In 1533 an expedition from this settlement founded the near-by city of Cartagena, and three years later sent forth the expedition which discovered Bogota, then known as Mequeta. Simon Bolivar died in 1830 on the San Pedro estate, about 3 miles from the city. At the present time Santa Marta is a flourishing center for the export of bananas and other fruits, being the terminal of a railroad and a shipping port for the steamers of the United Fruit Co.

The *money* actually in use in Colombia is an inconvertible paper currency, the exchange rate of which, considering the paper peso as the unit, is 100 pesos to \$1.00 gold. By a law passed October 25, 1903, Colombia adopted the gold standard, selecting as a monetary unit a gold dollar of 1.672 grams and 0.900 fine. Since then the inconvertible paper has much depreciated. There have been coined a Colombian pound, valued at \$4.8665 United States gold, and a half pound. There is also a silver peso, a half peso, silver peseta (20 centavos), and a real (10 centavos).

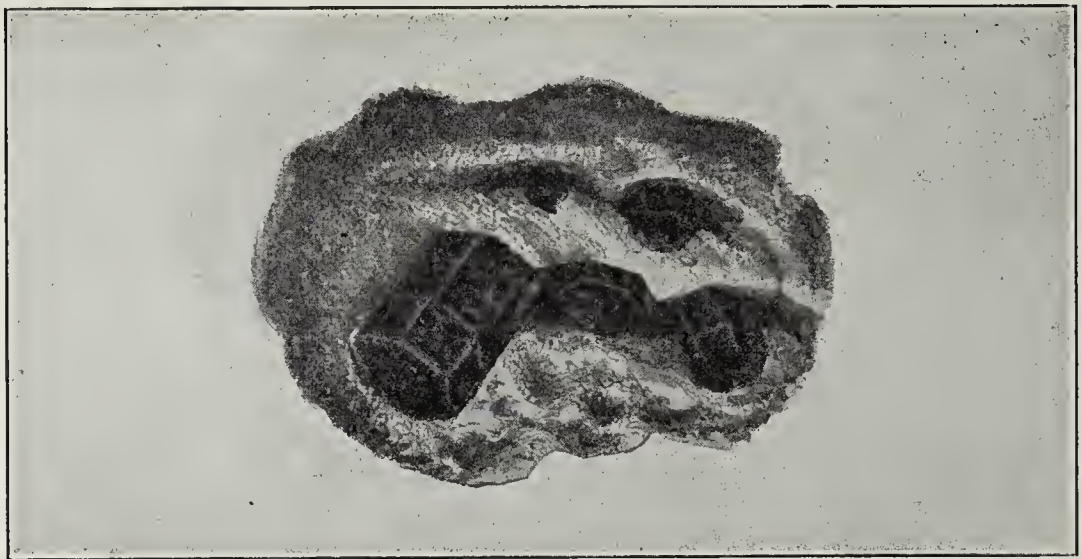
The capital of the Republic is the city of Bogotá with a population not much short of 125,000, in the interior of the country, on the temperate plateau, at an elevation of 8,564 feet (2,610 meters). It lies in a healthful and productive region, with higher mountain ranges surrounding it. As the valleys in the neighborhood are well inhabited by an industrious people, an abundant and remarkably varied food supply is one of the attractive features of the city. The difficulty of approach from the sea, as will be explained under railways, is the only reason why Bogotá is not as regularly visited by foreigners, as it deserves. Among the notable public buildings are the presidential palace, the national capitol, the cathedral, several banks, and the museum. The city of next importance in the Republic is Medellín, now accessible, except for a short ride over a good road, by railway from Puerto Berrio, one of the Magdalena River ports. Medellín is quite modern, although with a history back to the early days of the country, and its commercial activity, and the general energy and ambition of the people, make it a most attractive city. Its population is approaching 75,000. Cali, with almost 30,000 inhabitants, is the interior city for the Pacific port of Buenaventura, and is considered one of the most advanced cities in the Republic. The chief ports on the salt water are Buenaventura already mentioned, destined to become, when the Canal is in complete operation, important for all the western region of Colombia; Cartagena on the Caribbean Sea, the classical port of the Spanish Main; Barranquilla, head of the steamer service for the Magdalena River traffic, and Santa Marta, now revived into great importance by the increasing banana interests of this coast.

PRODUCTS AND INDUSTRIES.

The coasts and hot regions of the Republic produce corn, sugar cane, sea-island cotton, rubber, cacao, bananas, fibers, tropical fruits, and vegetables, while the mountains and uplands yield coffee, apples, peaches, berries, potatoes, wheat, barley, and in fact all of the products of the Temperate Zone. The entire country is suitable for stock raising, the pastures in many sections remaining green the year round. Few

countries contain the latent wealth and favorable conditions for developing it to such a degree as does Colombia.

On the Magdalena, an adequate labor supply is obtainable for large plantations of bananas as well as of cacao and rubber, and with a sufficient population the Santa Marta district could within a few years increase its population tenfold. The valleys of the Atrato and Leon have long been recognized as having proper characteristics for the cultivation of this fruit. On the Sinu River there is also much good banana land, as well as an area suited to the cultivation of oranges, pineapples, alligator pears, and many other tropical products. This is the great cattle belt, as it is also the source of the cedar and mahogany exported from Colombia.



A COLOMBIAN EMERALD IN ITS BED.

Among the layers found in the various deposits of the mines and crossing the rocky strata the emeralds are encountered in their natural state. The beds in which they lie are composed chiefly of a carbonate of salt.

The coffee crop of the Republic yields annually about 600,000 bags. About 25,000 bags are retained for home consumption, the remainder going to the United States and Europe. The principal coffee districts are the Department of Cundinamarca, which produces the renowned Bogotá brand; the Ocana, Cucuta, and Bucaramanga districts, in the Department of Santander, and in the Tolima and smaller valleys of the Cordilleras. Exports of coffee for 1912 amounted to 55,993 tons, valued at \$16,777,908.

The gathering of ivory nuts, the fruit of the tagua palm, from which the higher grades of buttons are manufactured, is one of the growing industries of the country. The exports of this product during 1912 were valued at \$754,707.



EMERALD WASHING IN COLOMBIA.

The traditional method in preparing emeralds is still followed in Colombia. After removing the loose earth covering the stones they are then washed in the abundant supply of water found within easy reach of the mines.

In some departments, notably Antioquia, the mineral industry is well established, while the Marmato and Sucio River gold deposits are said to be equal to those of the Transvaal. It is said that the entire Pacific coast of Colombia has been formed by gold-bearing alluvial, so that with more effective development a great mining center will be established. The great gold-bearing region is found in the Department of Antioquia and in the mountain ranges that separate the Cauca and Magdalena Rivers. In this large area of many thousands of square miles, wherever there is gravel there is gold, and back in the mountains, where the rock has been laid bare, veins are found everywhere. These veins contain treasures of gold that can be extracted by the systematic use of modern machinery and methods. Many hundreds of miles of this rich territory have never been explored except by the Indian hunter.

Recent gold discoveries near Neiva, on the upper Magdalena River, have opened up a new section of the gold belt. It is known that the Department of Narino, bordering on the Ecuador line, is rich in the precious metal. Gold nuggets are found in the gravel beds of all the rivers of this section flowing into the Pacific Ocean. Discoveries have also been made of rich gold-bearing quartz on the headwaters of the Andagueda and Chirvigo Rivers, distant about 125 miles from Quibdo.

Copper ores are very abundant in Colombia, but owing to the richness of the country in gold and silver little attention has been paid to the common metals. When the value of the copper deposits becomes better known and appreciated, Colombia will without doubt rank as one of the greatest copper-producing countries of the world. Copper ores are found in the Ocana and Velez districts, in the Department of Santander, in the districts of Moniguica and Santa Rosa, in the Department of Boyaca, and in the Department of Antioquia.

Russia is the only country whose platinum output exceeds that of Colombia. This metal, which is always found mixed with gold, comes from the gravels of the Choco district, its main source being the Platina and Condoto Rivers, which are tributary to the San Juan River. It is also obtained from some of the streams that flow into the Atrato River.

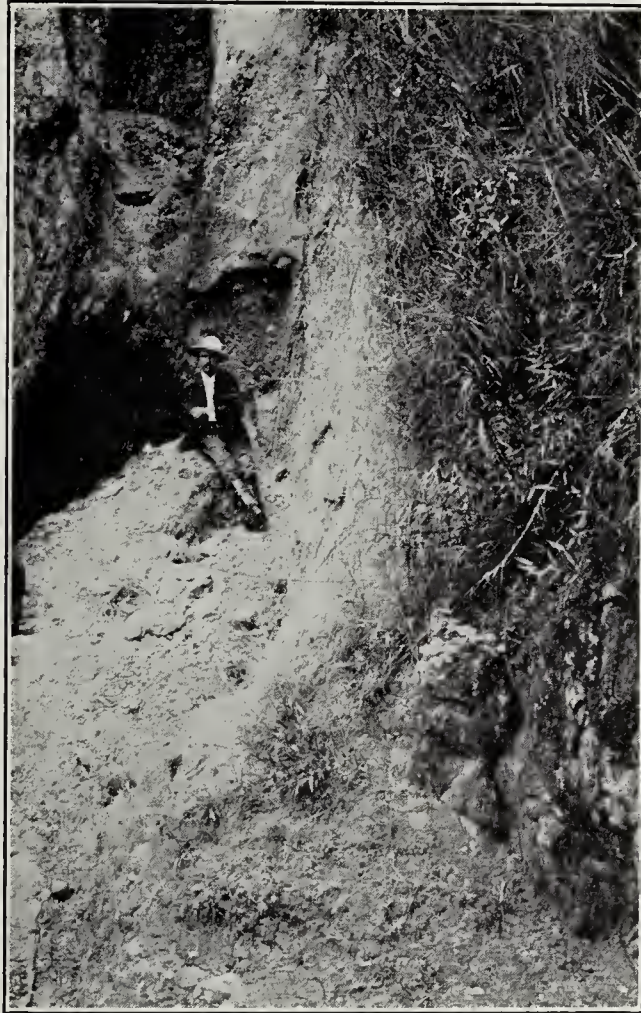
Coal is found in the Cordillera, lignite on the coasts, and coking and steam coal in the interior. Valuable deposits have been discovered recently between the Atrato and Leon Rivers; in short, the Colombian coal fields are well located to take advantage of the market facilities which will become available with the completion of the Panama Canal.

The petroleum deposits are said to resemble those of the Beaumont, Tex., oil fields. The quality of the product is excellent and it was awarded the first prize in the Centennial Exposition held at Bogotá in July, 1910. Refineries have been established for the elaboration of

gasoline, benzine, paraffin, and other by-products from the crude petroleum.

Iron ores are abundant in the Republic, and shipments of high-grade asphalt are made from Santander.

The principal manufacturing industries are those for the making of textile goods, glass, earthenware, matches, and hats, iron foundries, and flour and sugar mills.



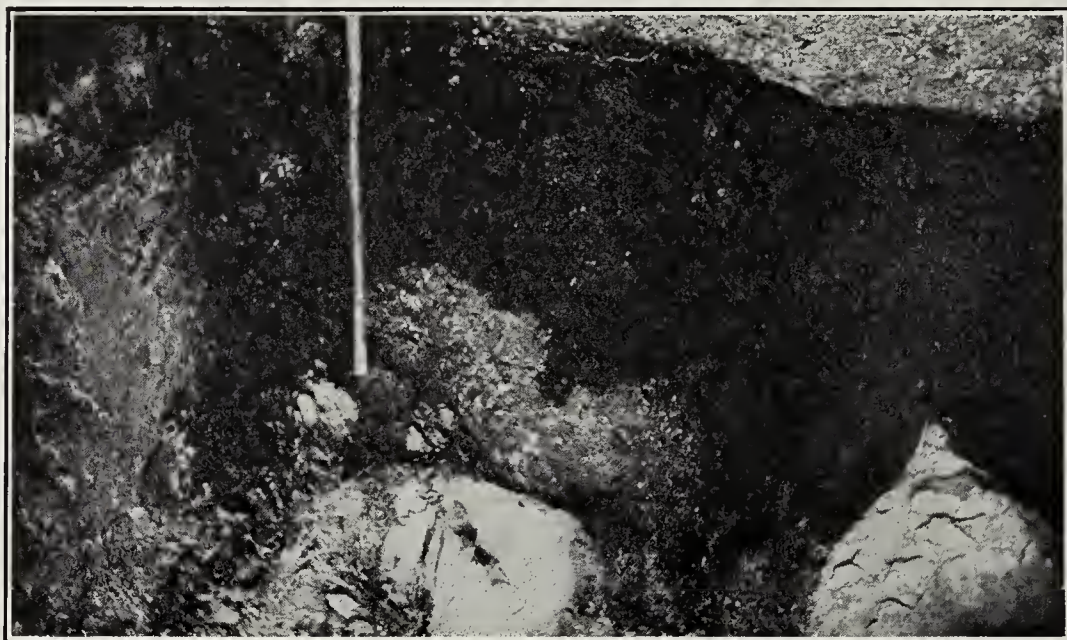
A VERTICAL COAL SEAM. NEAR CALI, COLOMBIA,
4 FEET 7 INCHES THICK.

In the Cauca Valley, en route from Caldas to Cali, coal beds running from a few inches to 6 or 7 feet in thickness are found. It is believed that borings at Cali would show coal underlying the floor of the valley which is about 25 to 30 miles wide.

All or very nearly all the emeralds mined today come from Colombia. And, in spite of the supposed higher value of diamonds, the emerald is the most precious of gems. Carat for carat, a flawless emerald would bring perhaps three times the price of a flawless diamond in the jewelry market. India, the storehouse of precious stones, is credited with producing the first emeralds, but the oriental emerald is not identical

with the modern gem, as it is a variety of the ruby, of a green color and extremely rare.

“Smaragdus,” the Greek word from which emerald is traced, really meant any green stone, and this led to some confusion in identifying the true character of the jewels referred to under this name in ancient writings. Now the name is only applied to that gem of the beryl family of a bright green color (due to traces of a quantity of oxide of chromium), a translucent hexagonal crystal with glass-like luster and uneven fracture, composed of silica, alumina, glucina, magnesia, and soda. It is brittle and comparatively soft when fresh from the mines, but hardens on exposure to air. Today emeralds are found in Austria, in Siberia, in India and especially in Colombia.



ANOTHER COAL SEAM NEAR CALI, COLOMBIA, 4 FEET 6 INCHES THICK.

On a trip from Cali to Juanchito coal from one of the openings in the vicinity was used, and proved very satisfactory. Steam was kept up easily, and with small consumption a beautiful, hot, white fire with a brown smoke was the result. There was little ash and the coal appeared to be free from slate and other impurities.

Tradition has it that an Aztec gem appropriated by Cortez was valued at 40,000 ducats. Another wonderful stone, the size of an ostrich egg, was found in the Manka Valley, Peru, where the Indians worshipped it as the Goddess of Emeralds. The Spanish conquerors opened up the mines of Colombia in 1540. The richest mineral areas were those of Muzo and Coscuez, about 75 miles (47 kilometers) north of Bogotá, and the Somondoco or Chivor group, about 80 miles (149 kilometers) northeast of Bogotá, at an elevation of about 6,500 feet (say 2,000 meters) above sea level. A curious fact in the history of these latter mines is that they were closed and lost to the world in an enveloping

forest of jungle for over a hundred years and only rediscovered some fourteen years ago.

The Government of Colombia controls the exploitation of emeralds, leasing the mining districts to the working companies. The Muzo group, from which the finest emeralds come, has an estimated yearly output of 262,548 carats of the first class, 467,690 second class, 22,700 third class, and 16,000 fourth class. The Coscuez group, named for an Indian princess, which produced the variety of emerald called canutillo, one of the most valuable stones, is now in the category of "lost mines," the exact location being unknown. The Somondoco or Chivor group, not now being worked, is supposed to possess a matrix that would yield a half million dollars' worth of emeralds a year.



STREET SCENE, BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA.

Barranquilla, the most important commercial city of Colombia and capital of the province of the same name, is situated on the Magdalena River 15 miles from its mouth. A railroad 18 miles long connects the city with Puerto Colombia on the seacoast, where there is an excellent pier. An extensive commerce is carried on from the Barranquilla docks with the interior by river steamers, and a large part of the foreign trade of the Republic passes through this port. The principal exports are coffee, hides, tobacco, cacao, rubber, ores, etc.

The Cuincha group, across the Minero River from the Muzo mines, forms a new field of much promise.

The emerald-mining country of Colombia is extremely inaccessible, and the difficulties of transport force a recourse to the simplest methods in order to extract the stones. The Muzo mine is in what seems to be the bowl of an extinct volcano, and the method in use there is typical. Twenty or thirty laborers with picks and crowbars break out the face of the crater along a determined line, leaving a trail of green quartz that contains the crystals; the quartz is then cut and separated with the greatest care, for the gems are extremely fragile when in the matrix,

and the débris dropped into a sluiceway, where it it washed by a stream of water coming with force from the higher planes of the mine; the water is then drained off and the sediment searched for the green gems. It was by just this method that the most valuable single emerald in the world was found.

COMMERCE.

The only available figures for the year 1913 are the totals covering the imports and the exports of Colombia for that period. These are imports \$28,535,780, and exports \$34,315,252, a total of \$62,851,032. In all probability, however, the figures in detail, when received, will not differ materially from those of 1912, as given below.

The foreign trade of Colombia for the year 1912, according to the report of Señor Don Roberto Caycedo, Director General of Statistics, amounted to \$56,186,369.16, of which \$23,964,623.00 were imports, and \$32,221,746.16 were exports.



INTERIOR OF A RETAIL STORE IN BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA

Display of imported goods.

IMPORTS.

The imports, by countries of origin, were as follows:

	1911	1912
United Kingdom.....	\$5,838,789.69	\$7,838,878.65
United States.....	5,404,975.96	7,612,037.33
Germany.....	3,242,634.90	4,201,125.43
France.....	1,718,747.80	2,011,886.16
Italy.....		596,880.48
Belgium.....		570,918.91
Spain.....	397,733.47	476,968.86
Venezuela.....		82,621.84
Dutch West Indies.....		60,723.81
Panama.....	31,790.68	53,264.20
Other countries.....	1,474,190.86	459,317.33
Total.....	18,108,863.36	23,964,623.00

The imports by major groups of articles for the years 1911 and 1912 were:

	1911	1912
Textiles.....	\$8,025,856.43	\$10,547,134.45
Foodstuffs and condiments.....	2,191,009.09	3,054,952.65
Metals.....	2,004,081.63	2,916,924.80
Transportation: Railway cars, carriages, wagons, etc.....	726,048.34	1,031,711.07
Drugs and medicines.....	762,208.83	838,348.53
Soft drinks, wines, and liquors.....	628,595.70	835,772.25
Material for the arts and trades.....	702,856.33	620,251.12
Lighting and fuel.....	371,447.17	564,063.38
Ceramics and stones.....	457,381.19	503,579.03
Paper and cardboard.....	453,701.60	477,522.20
Hides and skins, and manufactures thereof....	310,440.50	459,606.95
Agricultural and mining products.....	323,074.01	381,587.91
Woods.....	226,372.79	317,401.97
Electrical material.....	100,089.69	175,638.63
Oils and greases.....	106,818.66	171,733.51
Perfumery and soap.....	97,338.89	152,169.87
Varnishes, colors, and inks.....	104,345.76	125,862.11
Rubber, celluloid, etc.....	84,504.76	102,358.04
Explosives and combustibles.....	38,419.53	94,116.21
Tortoise shell, horn, etc.....	53,501.94	75,600.46
Musical instruments.....	55,767.66	69,622.64
Firearms, accessories, and ammunition.....	48,991.98	57,438.88
Live animals.....	7,179.30	26,016.89
Miscellaneous.....	228,781.51	365,209.45
Total.....	18,108,863.36	23,964,623.00



STATUETTES CARVED BY THE DESCENDANTS OF THE CHIBCHA INDIANS OF BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.

The art of carving these little figures is said to be handed down from father to son. Not the least merit of the work is their fidelity to life; the figures are truthful representations to the minutest details of typical Indian men and women as they can be seen daily trudging from the mountains down to the market place of Bogota, carrying their ware to offer for sale.

The imports by ports of entry for the years 1909, 1910, 1911, and 1912 were:

	1909	1910	1911	1912
Barranquilla.....	\$5,744,569.82	\$10,060,169.15	\$9,613,555.27	\$12,445,532.38
Cartagena.....	2,264,469.52	3,977,477.94	4,335,805.75	5,084,306.89
Buenaventura.....	1,031,941.00	1,278,380.65	1,853,537.45	3,839,770.51
Tumaco.....	764,761.04	970,546.29	1,052,494.22	1,171,372.83
Cucuta.....	474,426.09	518,271.79	692,981.45	768,468.02
Santa Marta.....	151,032.64	97,721.59	378,751.88	444,035.96
Ipiales.....	36,674.25	45,030.20	57,593.09	69,706.74
Riohacha.....	59,879.90	45,171.80	83,969.80	68,689.89
Arauca.....	33,292.44	23,801.72	21,846.96	44,420.51
Orocue.....		9,065.92	18,327.49	28,319.27
Total.....	10,561,046.70	17,025,637.05	18,108,863.36	23,964,623.00

EXPORTS.

The exports for the years 1911 and 1912, by countries and destination, were as follows:

	1911	1912
United States.....	\$12,248,995.38	\$15,832,882.08
United Kingdom.....	4,596,137.81	4,376,182.31
Germany.....	1,910,353.75	1,854,211.09
France.....	769,189.48	625,198.88
Spain.....	119,654.55	302,918.00
Panama.....	42,977.25	73,470.10
Other countries.....	2,688,591.34	9,156,883.70
Total.....	22,375,899.56	32,221,746.16

The exports, by classes, were as follows:

	1911	1912
Vegetable products.....	\$14,375,300.82	\$20,792,418.38
Mineral products.....	4,507,761.72	7,769,387.69
Animal products.....	1,960,409.76	2,258,701.03
Manufactured products.....	1,347,393.97	1,210,678.56
Live animals.....	92,852.64	150,605.60
Miscellaneous products.....	7,445.49	31,808.90
Currency.....	84,735.25	8,146.00
Total.....	22,375,899.56	32,221,746.16



Top picture: An unusually good view of the Falls of Tequendama. The effect of the yellow water as it makes its great leap is, under certain sunlight conditions, like a mighty stream of molten gold. Lower picture: Mountain scenery in the heart of the Andes, photographed by Mr. Arthur W. DuBois, son of the former U. S. minister, during his 10-day journey to visit the Muzo mines, the greatest deposit of emeralds in the world. These mines are between the great Sabana of Bogotá and the Magdalena River and are a Government monopoly. They produce a handsome revenue each year. The best emerald ever taken from this mine was valued at \$75,000.

Under the various classifications the principal exports were:

	1911		1912	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
Vegetable products:				
Coffee..... tons..	37,900	\$9,475,448.89	55,993	\$16,777,908.28
Bananas..... do....	109,786	2,172,000.00	105,263	1,996,999.07
Tagua..... do....	10,990	739,419.00	11,599	754,707.71
Rubber..... do....	577	900,886.90	503	736,427.39
Leaf tobacco..... do....	3,911	332,935.00	3,262	442,461.15
Mineral products:				
Gold in bars..... kilos..	7,683	2,454,834.83	19,642	4,610,073.39
Gold dust..... do....	2,891	1,296,797.54		
Platinum..... do....	2,554	345,896.00		
Animal products:				
Cattle hides..... tons..	4,449	1,779,790.21	5,168	2,261,721.50
Manufactured products:				
Panama hats (Tumaco).... kilos..	36,167	550,243.00	56,522	417,826.09
Panama hats (Suaza)..... do....	57,617	538,578.00	78,927	756,815.00

The exports by ports of clearance for the years 1909, 1910, 1911, and 1912 were:

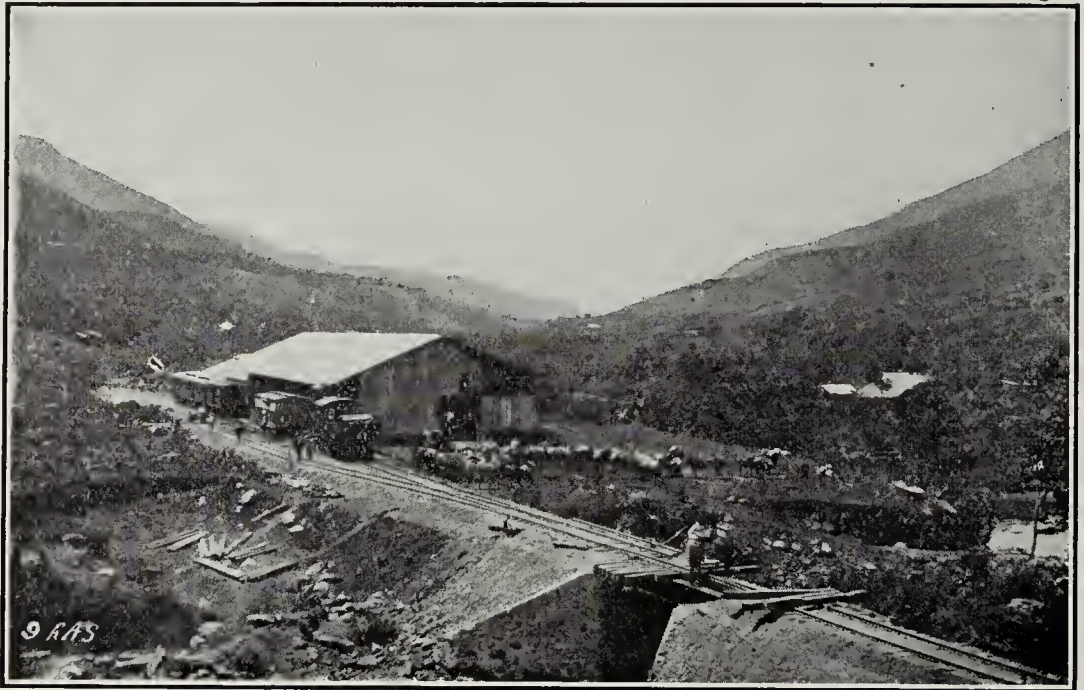
	1909	1910	1911	1912
Barranquilla.....	\$5,689,017.37	\$7,139,083.42	\$8,244,491.99	\$12,231,609.08
Cartagena.....	4,548,895.75	5,178,441.63	5,927,159.30	6,665,159.20
Riohacha.....	146,422.06	161,507.29	234,460.60	4,861,511.70
Cucuta.....	1,211,453.90	861,918.20	2,087,654.70	2,992,917.74
Santa Marta.....	1,310,755.63	1,770,067.96	2,303,223.33	2,453,630.69
Tumaco.....	1,293,368.16	1,164,561.57	1,573,340.16	1,417,153.19
Buenaventura.....	1,171,405.00	1,153,523.00	1,780,742.04	1,342,966.69
Arauca.....	84,434.96	83,068.22	92,836.48	121,101.20
Ipiales.....	57,573.40	84,272.85	70,519.50	67,964.81
Orocué.....		28,708.60	61,416.46	67,731.86
Total.....	15,513,346.23	17,625,152.74	22,375,899.56	32,221,746.16

RAILWAYS AND INTERIOR WATERWAYS.

The peculiar geographical features of the Republic have rendered the construction of extended railroad lines a very expensive and difficult undertaking. The chain of the Andes divides the southwestern part of the country into three distinct ranges, the middle one of which ceases some 150 miles (242 kilometers) from the northern coast, thus permitting the Cauca River, which rises between the central and western range, to unite with the Magdalena some distance above its entrance into the Caribbean Sea. To reach Bogotá from the west coast, which would be by far the shortest route from the ocean, a railroad would have to traverse not only the western and central ranges, but mount to the plateaus of the third range, on which the capital is situated.

The Magdalena River, which is at present the only available outlet from Bogotá to the Atlantic coast, is impassable at several points on account of rapids and has a bar at its mouth which impedes navigation. Barranquilla, at which point the river journey to the capital begins, is about 15 miles (24 kilometers) by rail from the seaport of Savanilla.

The traveler can also make the trip by rail from Cartagena to Calamar 65 miles (105 kilometers), taking the steamer at the latter point. A journey by water is then made to La Dorada, where a change is made to the railroad, and a second river trip commenced at Puerto Beltran, and the final stage of the journey made by rail from Girardot to Bogotá, the total time consumed being about seven days.



CALDAS STATION ON THE PACIFIC RAILWAY.

This is at present the termination of the Ferrocarril del Pacifico, which runs from Buenaventura. The train leaves that seaport at 7 a. m., arriving by noon at Caldas. If an early start is made from here the next morning, Cali can be reached in the afternoon.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF CALI FROM SAN ANTONIO HILL, AT THE WEST SIDE OF THE TOWN, COLOMBIA.

There is as yet no continuous railroad system within the Republic, but there are many short lines at present engaged chiefly in local traffic, which, when their plans are fully carried out, will connect the coast on both the Atlantic and Pacific sides with the centers of production. Those lines which tap the valleys of the Atrato and Cauca Rivers will probably at some future date form a part of the proposed Pan American railway system.

There are two short lines in the northeastern part of the Republic, but the interests of most of the lines now in operation are bound up with those of the capital, the whole eastern and southern territory from Bogotá to the Venezuela and Ecuador boundaries having no rail connection with the more settled sections of the country.

The length of railways in operation in the Republic is 988 kilometers (614 miles).³ The following table shows the lines in actual operation and the mileage of each:

	<i>Kilos.</i>
Barranquilla Ry.	27
Cartagena Ry.	105
Santa Marta Ry.	94
Cúcuta Ry.	71
Great Northern Central (Puerto Wilches) Ry.	32
Antioquia or Puerto Berrio Ry.	142
Amaga Ry.	8
Dorada Ry.	119
Girardot Ry.	132
Sabana Ry.	40
Colombian Northern Ry.	62
Southern Ry.	29
Pacific (Cauca) Ry.	94
Cali tramway.	8
Espinal or Tolima Ry.	25

The lines from Barranquilla and Cartagena, as already stated, run from the north coast and connect with the steamer routes on the Magdalena River. The Santa Marta road also starts on the north coast and runs to the town of Fundacion, on the river of the same name. It is the outlet for a large banana district, and the railroad company has contracted for extensions into new territory which are expected to materially increase the output of that fruit. The bay of Santa Marta offers a safe anchorage all the year round; there is a wharf with accommodations for large steamers and a depth of water of 30 feet.

³About 48 kilometers (30 miles) completed in 1912, should be added to these figures.

The Great Northern Central line starts from Puerto Wilches, on the Magdalena, and is under construction toward Bucaramanga, with the ultimate expectation of being built to the capital.

The Dorada Railway was constructed in order to afford a means of easy transportation around the rapids of the Magdalena, which here make navigation impossible. The line extends from La Dorada through Honda to Ambalema, but passengers leave the train to take the steamer route to Puerto Beltran.

The Girardot Railway starts at the Magdalena and joins the Sabana line at Facatativa, the latter line running direct to Bogotá and thus



PORT OF AMBALEMAN, ON THE MAGDALENA RIVER, COLOMBIA.

completing the line of communication between the Caribbean Sea and the capital of the Republic. These two roads are, of course, of the utmost importance to Colombia, for previous to their completion it was necessary to take a long trip by muleback over the mountains to the river. The Tolima Railway is a short private line running from the Magdalena at Girardot to the town of Espinal.

Two other lines, the Colombian Northern and the Southern Railway, run from Bogotá through the extensive savanas, the former to the north and the latter terminating in the town of Sibate, toward the southwest. The Colombian Northern is now in operation to Nemocon and is expected to continue on to Chiquinquirá, 66 miles (106 kilometers) farther, where it will meet the Puerto Wilches line to be extended from Bucaramanga. If the plans for this route are carried out, these two

roads will form a great trunk line from Bogotá to the Magdalena, which will not only shorten the distance and the time consumed in the journey to the coast but will open up a vast extent of territory now but little developed.

The Cúcuta Railway is a short line connecting the city of that name with the port of Villamizar, the head of navigation on the Zulia River, with an extension to Tachira on the Venezuelan frontier.

The Pacific Railway, which, starting from Buenaventura on the west coast, runs to the prosperous city of Cali and thence through the Cauca Valley. Cali was also connected with the Cauca River in July, 1919, by a short steam tramway. The Pacific line is expected to follow the



AT THE JUANCHITO TERMINAL, OF THE CALI TRAMWAY, COLOMBIA.

From Cali a narrow-gauge railway runs to Juanchito, about 7 miles (11 kilometers) distant and situated on the Cauca River. The line was constructed mainly for freight service between Cali and the river, but the passenger traffic has developed as successfully as the freight.

Valley of the Cauca for a considerable distance, and will furnish an outlet to the sea for the increasing commerce of that district. With the completion of this line and the railroad connecting the Cauca with the cities of Amaga and Medellin, also that between Medellin and Puerto Berrio on the Magdalena, the products of a large part of the Republic will be much more easily and quickly transported to foreign markets than at present, so that the commerce of the country should receive an impetus it has never before known.

Colombia has a fine system of waterways, the most important of which is the Magdalena, navigable by vessels of considerable draft for a distance of over 600 miles (966 kilometers) and by smaller craft 300 miles (483 kilometers) farther. The Atrato is navigable for 200 miles (322 kilometers) inland and the Sinu for 110 miles (177 kilometers). The Cauca, the Zulia, the Cesar, the Nechi, the Lebrija, the Sogamoso, and some of the smaller tributaries are also navigable for various distances.

The steamer service to Colombia is obtained on both the Atlantic and Pacific sides. To Buenaventura on the Pacific, local steamers of all lines running south from Panama make regular passage, the distance being 355 miles (571 kilometers); express steamers, however, do not stop at Colombian ports. Cartagena and Barranquilla (in reality this is Savanilla, for Barranquilla is rather the city on the River) are regular ports of call for steamers between Colon and European ports, on such lines as the Royal Mail, the Hamburg-American (Atlas service), the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the Veloce and the Compañía Trasatlántica. Santa Marta, farther to the east, is now in direct connection with New York by the steamers of the United Fruit Company.

Some of the interior highways, especially from Bogotá and Medellín, are so well built that automobile service is conducted on them, but much of the travel from place to place must be restricted to cart road of a rather primitive character, or even to mule paths, too narrow to admit a wheeled vehicle. The pleasures of these journeys fully compensates, however, for the lack of some of the luxuries easily at hand of the traveler in more thickly populated countries.

Colombia is a land of contrasts, from the tropic coast to the temperate plateau and even to the snow clad mountains of the Cordillera. It has not yet become a tourist country, although every attraction of natural beauty can be found there. Near Bogotá are the Falls of Tequendama, higher than Niagara but not so voluminous; a miracle spring is worth visiting, and many interesting remains of the aboriginal inhabitants can be found in the neighborhood and studied. As railway facilities increase, Colombia is sure to become better known to the transient visitor.

EDUCATION.

Education in Colombia is under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. There are five subdivisions, designated as follows: Primary, secondary, professional, artistic and industrial. In 1913 there were reported to be 5,225 schools with an attendance of about 335,480 pupils. Although primary instruction is free, it has not yet been made compulsory, but the Government is taking active steps to place the schools and the school system on a modern basis. Many of the schools for secondary education are entrusted to religious bodies. There is a university at



UNIVERSITY OF MEDELLIN, MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA.

Bogotá, founded in 1572, with faculties in letters, philosophy, law and political sciences, medicine and natural sciences, and in mathematics and engineering. A university at Medellín was founded in 1822, and in 1913 the University of Magdalena was founded at Santa Marta. Great effort has been made to establish schools of arts and crafts for the working classes, and gratifying success has been the result. The art schools in the larger cities are always well attended. Normal schools to the number of 21 have been founded in 13 departments, and Medellín and Pasto have each a mining school.

THE PAN AMERICAN UNION is the international organization and office maintained in Washington, D. C., by the twenty-one American republics, as follows: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. It is devoted to the development and advancement of commerce, friendly intercourse, and good understanding among these countries. It is supported by quotas contributed by each country, based upon the population. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board, which is composed of the Secretary of State of the United States and the diplomatic representatives in Washington of the other American governments. These two executive officers are assisted by a staff of international experts, statisticians, commercial specialists, editors, translators, compilers, librarians, clerks and stenographers. The Union publishes a Monthly Bulletin in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French, which is a careful record of Pan American progress. It also publishes numerous special reports and pamphlets on various subjects of practical information. Its library, the Columbus Memorial Library, contains 30,000 volumes, 15,000 photographs, 100,000 index cards, and a large collection of maps. The Union is housed in a beautiful building erected through the munificence of Andrew Carnegie.